

(Written for the Indianapolis Sentinel.)

META WOODRUF.

By Mrs. Addie Dotch Frank.

(CONTINUATION OF CHAPTER XVIII.)

It was a difficult undertaking for a young girl to disguise herself for the purpose of nursing her father, knowing that at any moment she might be recognized. But her great love for him caused her to fear nothing. She would brave death itself for him. Her disguise, as we already know, had been a success; she had been able to nurse him as no stranger would have done.

"Meta, my darling, you must never leave me again," he said, in a feeble voice, clinging closely to her.

"Never, papa, as long as life lasts," she answered.

"Tell me, child, how you came here disguised."

"Be very quiet and I will. When Flo arrived at Aunt Ellen's, told of your severe illness and showed me the advertisement for a nurse, I had sent to some paper, I resolved to answer it myself, as I could not remain away from you, knowing you were ill. When I went upstairs to prepare for my homeward journey, I called Aunt Ellen and told her of my intentions to disguise myself, as I knew that in no other way would I dare enter Woodruff Hall. She at once brought out that wig and those goggles, which she found among Hall's masquerade suits. Putting them on and to my great delight, no one recognized me. I felt sure, then, that I was safe to return to the home I loved so well. You had not consulted a physician yet, nor was Mrs. Woodruff willing that you should, until I told her that I would not remain at Woodruff Hall if she did not summon medical aid at once," she said, hesitating a moment to rest.

"Go on; tell me the rest," said Mr. Woodruff, impatiently.

"Dr. Thorburn was sent for and arrived the following day. Your case puzzled him, and he asked to be allowed to consult with Dr. Ross. When the latter arrived, and had examined your case thoroughly, they adjourned to the next room. In a few moments they called me, and to my horror told me what they suspected. My suspicions were aroused against that woman at once, and I resolved to watch her, and if she were guilty, to see that she did not escape punishment. But the strictest surveillance on my part failed to detect her in the would-be murderer. I felt ashamed for having committed my father's wife with such a crime."

"She is my wife no longer; I give her up to justice. Her future home is the prison," exclaimed Mr. Woodruff.

"Be quiet, my dear friend; your life depends upon it," interrupted Dr. Grey.

"I will, Doctor. But tell me, Meta, how you ever thought of watching her?"

"This morning you were a great deal worse and asked for Doctor Grey, and I went for him. He discovered the same symptoms of poison in your system as your former physicians had, and proposed watching Mrs. Woodruff. Of course it was necessary for me to aid him, and we also took Mr. Braden into our confidence. Consequently when everything was silent they entered the sitting room without disturbing either of you. I need not tell you more, for you have been witness to everything else which transpired."

"Meta, my darling, can you ever forgive me for the wrong I committed in marrying that woman, for causing you so much real sorrow?"

"Yes, dear papa, for you had the right to do as you thought best."

"And I did think it was for the best then, my child. I now see my great mistake. Oh, God, that I had listened to you."

"We may be happy yet, although our sky may be dark and cloudy now."

"No, no; it is too late, for I have brought disgrace upon the name I bear, which no other Woodruff did before me. A wife accused of poisoning her husband."

"Mr. Woodruff, if you desire it, this matter can be kept from every one, except those who already know it," said Dr. Grey.

"If she were a stranger to me, I would say punish her as she deserves. Because she is my wife in name, is that the reason you wish to keep her from punishment? Ah, no! Justice, the law must take its course. God will not spare the rich man or his wife at the day of judgment, nor his name either, therefore I shall not interfere in it."

"No, do I ask you to, I implore, death—anything is preferable to living with one I hate as I do you. Ah! do you think that I will ever ask mercy of you?"

"It was fine saying this. She had heard distinctly every word yet, by her husband, as he had been talking in a loud, angry voice. She had tried hard to keep silent, but at last was obliged to give way to her temper."

"Why, then, did you marry me? Was it to ruin my whole life—to separate me from my child? If so, you have succeeded admirably so far; but in your most heinous crime you failed. My daughter is restored to me, and I to her, while you are a prisoner, or even will be."

"You are, indeed, hard-hearted, to deliver your own wife to justice. I see my mistake now in not killing you outright, for then I might have escaped that which you think awaits me."

"Enough, dear papa; say no more to her, for she is not worthy the strength you are wasting on her. Mr. Braden, command your prisoner to keep silent, or she must be moved to other quarters," interrupted Meta.

"Command me to do anything, my noble Arthur, and I will obey you, since you love me so devotedly."

"Silence woman! unless you would yet be the cause of Clive Woodruff's death!" answered Arthur.

Dr. Grey would not allow Mr. Woodruff to speak again, as he was very weak and nervous, and there was great danger of his being thrown into a fever.

Since we last saw Meta without her disguise, she has grown more womanly in both looks and actions, but looks thin and pale from her close confinement in the sick chamber.

THE NATIONAL BANKS.

Should the Public Debt be Perpetuated as a Base for Their Currency?

To the Editor of the Sentinel:

Sir—The prime object in every branch of business, the world over, is the making, or accumulating, money.

The National banking business is certainly no exception to this rule.

And viewing the matter in this light we can readily understand why the National bankers insist upon the Government issuing long bonds (the longer the better), which they may purchase as a base for their currency; for there is no other business which

furnishes so safe and profitable an investment for capital.

Take a capital of \$500,000 and purchase bonds, even at 2 per cent, all exempt from taxation, upon which let there be issued \$500,000 of currency, also exempt from taxation, as demanded by the bankers, counting their currency at 6 per cent, and the bonds at 2. We have a net profit of 8 per cent, on the capital invested over and above the profit to the bankers derived from compounding interest and leasing deposits. This is a business no other business in this country.

In the arguments in favor of the perpetuation of that system, it is insisted, and properly so, that we must have paper currency, and the National Bank currency is compared with the State, and private bank currency of anti-bellum days, but we never have any comparison made with the United States paper currency.

It is certainly useless to argue against the State or private bank circulation, for there is no one in the Government who would really favor the restoration of such a system.

The will of the people seems to be, that we have no currency except that which is issued and controlled by the Government, and not by private corporations.

The wonder is, not that the bankers should demand it, but that the people should comply with them.

There is no doubt that the National Bank currency is good enough, but one objection is that it costs too much, and another and greater is that it is in the hands of corporations who can decrease or increase the supply at will, independent of the wishes of the people, which is anti-republican in its tendencies and should not be tolerated in this country.

And still another is, that that system compels the Government to be a borrower of all the paper currency in circulation, which is also directly opposed to republicanism.

A TRUE REPUBLIC SHOULD NEVER MAKE A DEBT.

Our Government can not long stand one-half republican and the other half aristocratic.

It is the duty of the people to carefully consider all the measures and proposals adopted, and to promptly suppress all which have an aristocratic tendency.

Is not the exempting from taxation a certain and large part of the capital of our country aristocratic in its tendencies?

Is not the trusting to a few private corporations for the supply and control of the currency, aristocratic in its tendencies?

Whatever currency we have is issued and controlled by the Government, and let it be a legal tender for its face to the bondholder and the bond carrier alike.

We can not afford to have one money for the rich, and another for the poor.

I do not want to place any trust in the man who has so little faith in the Government that he only considers its currency worth the commercial value of the material of which it is composed.

He is a vampire; he is only interested in the Government to the extent of the blood he can draw from it.

He should have a pressing invitation to take up his abode on the Eastern shore of the Atlantic.

Let our trust rest upon the man who says I will stand or fall with my Government. I will stand or fall with the honest way, where, and at all times, I declare any dollar made by this Government to be worth 100 cents, I care not of what it may be composed.

Upon these sentiments our Republic must stand or fall.

When we had large armies in the field to be fed and supplied with the munitions of war, we tried to sell bonds for gold and silver, but it could not be had, and our armies would have starved if we had had to depend upon that. But civilization taught us that currency was the creature of Government, and we started on that line; and, thanks to the progress of civilized government, our armies were well supplied, and our country prospered as it never had before, and continued in that prosperity until, on account of having certain parties in power, with their forces turned toward the rear, we were forced to "go backward" for several years.

Experience has taught us that the United States paper currency is "honest money—the best in the civilized world."

It may be right and proper enough for the bankers and everybody else to do the best they can for themselves in an honest way, but in one matter they make a great mistake. That is that they assume to be more wise and sagacious than any and everybody else. Their intense anxiety to accumulate large fortunes, and to do it in a very short time, overbalances their better judgment, and hence they over-reach themselves. They kill the hen which lays the golden egg, and the consequence is that many of them suddenly conclude that they like the Canadian Government better than the American.

That is the trouble in our country to-day. Too many of them have exhausted all their energy and their depositors' money to capture the gold-bearing fowl, and after dissecting her, they find her "just as all other hens are," whereupon the doors close.

R. E. H.

Indianapolis, Jan. 20, 1885.

D. D. D.

Which Means a Democratic Divine Dismissed.

COMMUNICATED.

RICHMOND, Ind., Jan. 22.—A feeling akin to that of disgust, mingled with indignation, is being expressed in strong terms among the members of the Presbyterian Church here over the action of their officials in a recent meeting of that august body, wherein it was decided by a vote of eight to three that their present moral adviser, Rev. J. D. Thomas, must seek other fields of labor.

This business meeting consisted of eleven of the deacons and elders of the church, and after the defeat of a motion by one of their number, that the proceedings of the meeting should be held in a profound secret, the official turn proceeded to voice his objections or his willingness of retaining the present pastor for the coming year, with the result above stated.

The prevailing opinion of many of our best citizens, as well as quite a number of the members of the church in question, seems to be that the main cause of the results of this official meeting is on account of Rev. Mr. Thomas adhering to Democratic faith. Rev. J. D. Thomas is a man of fine physique and endowed with rare intelligence and fine abilities, and has accomplished much genuine good for sinful humanity since his journey among us. Beside his regular labors in the old brick church, he has been instrumental in founding a new church in the West End, in which he labors incessantly among the poor people.

Mr. Thomas was seldom ever heard to express his political opinions on the streets or engaging in political letter writing, but the fact of his being served in the Conference array as a Chaplain is too much for the Republicans, and they say he must go.

Managing Poultry in Winter.

This is the season when eggs are high, but if the hens are rightly managed greater profits may be realized now than at any other time. The old-fashioned question is "Why do the hens refuse to lay after the weather becomes cold?" This inquiry we propose to attempt to answer, and numerous reasons may be given. In the first place, a

warm and comfortable poultry house in winter is absolutely indispensable to laying. That it is a necessity is a fact, but that there should be no cracks or crevices in the walls, while the door must be kept dry and clean. It should also have plenty of light, and the rays of heat from the sun should penetrate to every portion. While the hens are very partial to a retired, dark hen house at night, they will not remain inside during the day unless the house is well ventilated and light. Hence it may be noticed that an open shed is often preferred to a close, dark poultry house.

The feed should be given early, and the first meal may consist of a mixture of bran, ground oats and corn in equal proportions, scalded and fed warm, but the hens should not be allowed a full meal of the soft food.

It is a well-known fact that the remainder of the meal should consist of whole grain—wheat or oats—for which they should be made to scratch by scattering it in finely cut hay, chaff, sawdust, or any kind of material that will serve for the purpose. The object of compelling them to scratch for their food is to give them exercise, and prevent them from becoming fat, as over-fed hens will not lay. The best egg food is that of a nitrogenous character, such as milk, meat, etc., of which they should always receive a supply.

There is no doubt that the National Bank currency is good enough, but one objection is that it costs too much, and another and greater is that it is in the hands of corporations who can decrease or increase the supply at will, independent of the wishes of the people, which is anti-republican in its tendencies and should not be tolerated in this country.

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Quick Relief!

When a man has suffered from Rheumatism a little while, and is relieved from his pain, he is happy and delighted. But suppose he has suffered for more than a third of a century.

● Alvin Grim, of Vale, Iowa, writes: "After thirteen years of suffering from Rheumatism, I have been cured by your medicine."

● Mrs. A. B. Baker, of Chicago, writes: "I have been cured of my Rheumatism by your medicine."

● "Half a bottle of ATHLOPHOROS made me as good as new. My wife has taken it, and she is cured of her Rheumatism."

● "I have been cured of my Rheumatism by your medicine."

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Hartford Fire Insurance Company.

On the 31st day of December, 1884.

Located at No. 53 Trumbull Street, Hartford, Conn.

The Amount of its Capital is \$1,210,000 00
The Amount of its Capital paid up is \$1,210,000 00

THE ASSETS OF THE COMPANY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Cash on hand, and in the hands of Agents or other persons \$ 651,005 01
Real Estate unimproved 651,005 01
Stocks and Bonds owned by the Company, bearing interest at the rate of — per cent, secured as follows, per schedule filed, market value 1,817,250 50
Loans on Bonds and Mortgages of Real Estate, worth double the amount for which the same is mortgaged, and free from any prior incumbrances 372,888 82
Debits otherwise secured 251,175 09
All other securities—rents and interest accrued 26,821 94

Total Assets \$ 4,491,800 01

LIABILITIES.

Losses adjusted and unpaid \$ 65,825 67
Losses retained 25,598 81
Losses unadjusted 1,817,250 50
Losses in suspense awaiting for further proof 152,045 71
All other claims against the Company 1,730,707 07
Amount necessary to reimburse outstanding risks 2,012,427 85

Total Liabilities \$ 2,012,427 85

The greatest amount in any one risk \$ 50,000 00
The greatest amount allowed by the rules of the Company to be insured in any one city, town or village, depends upon size.

The greatest amount allowed to be insured in any one block, depends upon size.

STATE OF INDIANA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE.

I, the undersigned, Auditor of State of the State of Indiana, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of the statement of the condition of the above mentioned Company, on the 31st day of December, 1884, as shown by the original statement, and that the said original statement is now on file in this office.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name and affix my official seal, this 21st day of January, 1885.

JAMES H. RICE, Auditor of State.

OFFICIAL.

COPY OF STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION

OF THE

UNITED STATES BRANCH OF THE

PHOENIX INSURANCE COMPANY,

On the 31st Day of December, 1884.

Located at No. 67 Wall Street, New York. A. D. Irving, Manager. Home Office: London, England.

THE ASSETS OF THE COMPANY IN THE U. S. ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Cash on hand, and in the hands of Agents or other persons \$ 132,745 41
Bonds owned by the Company, bearing interest at the rate of — per cent, secured as follows—Market value 1,010,160 00
838,480 United States 4% Bonds 266,282 50
233,600 United States 4% Bonds 8,280 00
Debits otherwise secured, interest due 56,800 00
Debits for Premiums 56,800 00

Total Assets \$ 1,505,475 00

LIABILITIES IN U. S.

Losses adjusted and due \$ 11,292 00
Losses retained 23,119 00
Losses unadjusted 129,492 00
Losses in suspense waiting for further proof 569,688 43
Amount necessary to reimburse outstanding risks 1,043,191 43